

# S. J. McKee Archives



## William Wallace fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4801>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 47-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1881-1904

Physical Description: 30 cm

History /

Biographical:

William Wallace was born in Scotland around 1859. In 1881, when William was twenty-two, he emigrated to Canada with his father and brother. Once here they settled near what is today Forrest, Manitoba. The following spring they moved to the northwest margin of settlement in Manitoba, homesteading in the Shellmouth area. Wallace remained a resident of the region for the rest of his life. William Wallace was active in community affairs. He was appointed to the post of Secretary-Treasurer of the Shellmouth Municipality in 1887, and he held the position until 1904. In 1909, Wallace was injured in a railway accident, and he had to give up farming. He moved to Shellmouth and took up the position of postmaster, which he held for twenty-seven years. He died in 1945, and is buried at Shellmouth cemetery, Manitoba.

Custodial History:

The letters contained in the fonds remained in the possession of Margaret Wallace, who was the original recipient of the correspondence. She emigrated to Canada in 1904. At some point the letters passed to William Wallace who kept them in his possession in Shellmouth. In 1941, William contacted Professor E. J. Westcott of Brandon College regarding the fonds. He offered it to the College for safekeeping. Westcott accepted the letters. Westcott passed the letters on to various officers and staff at Brandon College and then Brandon University. Since 1982, the collection has resided in the S. J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of hundreds of letters that William Wallace and his brother, Andrew, wrote to their sister, Maggie, from 1881 until 1904. The first letter, dated 22 March 1881, was written by both William and Andrew aboard the S.S. Prussia as they sailed to North America from Scotland. The last letter was written on 4 January 1904 by William. It was written to inform Maggie and her husband that William had reserved a homestead in their name. This letter marks the end of the fonds. Later that spring Maggie and John emigrated to Canada to be with her family.

William was keenly interested in everything going on around him; his letters and Andrew's reveal what life was like for inexperienced settlers on the Canadian agricultural frontier in the last years of the nineteenth century. Fonds touches on a variety of social, political and economic themes.

Notes: CAIN No. 202641. A partial accession of the Wallace collection was completed in 1992 by Eileen McFadden.

Subject Access: Maggie Wallace  
 Andrew Wallace  
 Peter Wallace  
 prairie settlement  
 agriculture  
 western Canada history  
 Manitoba history  
 rural development

Finding Aid: An inventory for the correspondence is available. A copy of it is on the reference shelf in the reading room.

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

Related Material: William R. Morrison fonds (MG 3 1.5)



## Verna Gamey collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4868>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1991

Physical Description: 90 cm

### History /

#### Biographical:

In July 1928, Verna Althea Whitfield married William Arthur Gamey (b. 1892) in Winnipeg. For the first year of their marriage they both taught at Lockport, before moving to Winnipeg in 1929. Their only child, William Roy, was born there. In 1933, the Gameys moved to the Gamey family farm located at N1/2 12-16-22, near Strathclair. Verna's nephew Robert Kerr, from Kelowna, B.C. joined the family in 1949. Art and Verna left the farm in the spring of 1956, and moved into the house formerly owned by an aunt, Miss Bella Gamey. Art Gamey was a staunch supporter of the Co-operative movement and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). He died in January 1968.

#### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains documents relating to the Manitoba Farmer's Union, including copies of its publication "The Voice of the Farmer" (1961); the United Church of Canada, primarily Strathclair (1960-1989); the Manitoba Women's Institute and the National Institute for the Blind (1959-1976); the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture (1945-1961); the Birtle Presbyterian Church (1986-1989); the Social Credit League in Manitoba and B.C. (1947, 1953); the Manitoba Provincial Council of Women (1958-1959); the Manitoba Centennial Corporation (1966-1968); and the Shoal Lake Fair and Hamiota Exhibition (1949-1981).

Fonds also contains diaries (1923-1926); various political publications, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, primarily concerning the CCF and the New Democrats (1945-1971); the Cooperative Union of Canada (1949-1964); and the Manitoba Farm Forum (1942-1963). Included as well, are clippings from the Brandon Sun dealing with a wide variety of topics (1970-1991); publications on home/farm/highway safety (1949-1975); and the Manitoba Pool Elevators (1950-1955).

Fonds also contains correspondence to and from both Verna and Art Gamey.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from "Our Story to 1970" published by the R.M. of Strathclair and compiled by The Centennial History Committee (pp. 255-257).
Subject Access:	W.A. Gamey CCF New Democrats Social Credit League Manitoba Farmers Union Agriculture United Church Manitoba Federation of Agriculture Manitoba Provincial Council of Women
Storage Location:	1997 accessions
Storage Range:	1997 accessions
Related Material:	RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevators; Women's Institute collections: Manitoba (8-2002), Strathclair (7-2002), Rathwell (6-2002), Minnedosa (2-2002), Cordova (4-2002), Clanwilliam (3-2002), Crocus (5-2002), Douglas (20-2006), Binscarth (12-1997), Southwest A Region (26-1997); and the Greenway Fair (35-2006).